

I do not see the need for expanding the privileges of Novice and Technician licensees. As The Commission no longer issues Novice licenses, it seems peculiar to add privileges to this class, when an upgrade path already exists for those who wish to have more privileges. Technicians with Element 1 also have this same option available if they wish to expand their privileges.

The desire for more privileges is what has me currently preparing to upgrade my license class. I believe that with Advanced Class licenses no longer being issued, there are already many that may not seek to further their interests beyond the General level. If "Tech Plus" level Amateurs are given expanded privileges, many may lose incentive pursue even General Class Licensure. As I see it, the tiers of operating class do not reserve band space for those who already have a certain amount of knowledge, but serve to encourage operators to learn more about the practice, and "rewards" them for doing so. One is more compelled to learn more deeply when one has an incentive for advancement. The more privileges given at the "entry level", the less compelled they might be to learn more.

It would seem there would be more benefit to the service if either the Advanced Class were re-instated, or if a small portion of the Advanced part of the bands were granted to the General Class. There is a much greater gap in privileges granted to General and Extra Class (and the requirements for upgrading) than there is from Novice and Technician to General.

Thank you for your consideration.